ARKANSAS MILK PRODUCTION REPORT

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS) U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



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This report contains the results from the quarterly Milk Production Survey conducted during the first part of April 2004. A sample of Arkansas milk producers was surveyed to collect milk cow and production data as of April 1 which covers the January 1 through March 31, 2004 period. The annual data were compiled from the Milk Production Survey in January, April, July and October during the year, and the economic data were computed by the Economic Research Service, USDA. The data are also posted on our home page at the Internet address above, and more detailed national statistics at http://www.usda.gov/nass/. Thanks to all who responded to the questionnaire and telephone interview for the survey.

FIRST QUARTER MILK PRODUCTION DOWN 9 PERCENT

ARKANSAS milk production during the January-March 2004 quarter, was 87 million pounds, down 9 percent from the same period in 2003, but 9 percent above the previous October-December 2003 quarter.

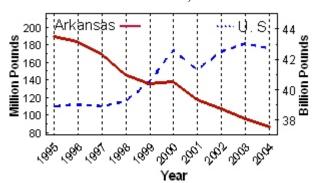
The average number of milk cows during the quarter was 27,000 head, 3,000 head less than the same period last year, and down 1,000 head from the previous quarter.

MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION BY QUARTER, ARKANSAS AND U. S., 2002-2004

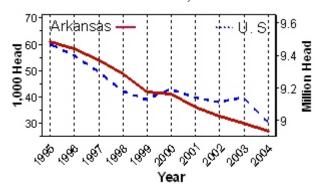
	ARKANSAS				UNITED STATES				
				% Chg.				% Chg.	
Item/Quarter	2002	2003	2004	2003-04	2002	2003	2004	2003-04	
	Thousand Head			Percent	Thousand Head			Percent	
MILK COWS ^{1/} :									
January - March	33	30	27	-10	9,113	9,144	8,991	-2	
April - June	33	29	-	-	9,148	9,109	-	-	
July - September	32	28	-	-	9,154	9,073	-	-	
October - December	31	28	-	-	9,142	9,011	-	-	
	Million Pounds			Percent	Million Pounds			Percent	
MILK PRODUCTION $^{2/}$:									
January - March	107	96	87	-9	42,485	43,069	42,688	-1	
April - June	111	97	-	-	44,089	43,965	-	-	
July - September	88	79	-	-	41,846	41,746	-	-	
October - December	87	80	-	-	41,643	41,532	-	-	

Average number for the period includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk nursed by calves.

Milk Production, January-March Quarter Arkansas and U.S., 1995-2004



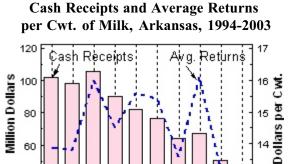
Milk Cows, January-March Quarter Arkansas and U.S., 1995-2004



2003 CASH RECEIPTS FROM MILK MARKETINGS DOWN 10 PERCENT

ARKANSAS **cash receipts from marketings of milk** during 2003, at \$45.8 million, was down 10 percent from 2002. **Average returns to producers** per 100 pounds of milk marketed was \$13.30, up 1 percent.

Marketings totaled 344 million pounds, down 11 percent from the previous year. Marketings include milk sold to plants and dealers as well as milk sold directly to consumers.

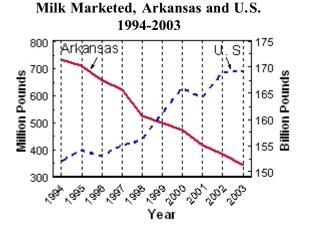


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ANNUAL MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION, MARKETINGS AND INCOME, 2002 - 2003

		ARKANSAS			UNITED STATES		
Item	Unit	2002	2003	% Chg.	2002	2003	% Chg.
MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION:							
Number of Milk Cows 1/	1,000 Head	32	29	-9	9,139	9,084	-1
Milk Production per Cow	Pounds	12,281	12,138	-1	18,608	18,749	+ 1
Total Milk Production 2/	$Million\ Lbs.$	393	352	-10	170,063	170,312	0
Percent of Fat in All Milk Produced	Percent	3.65	3.62	-1	3.68	3.67	0
MILK USED AND MARKETED:							
Milk Used by Producer Household	Million Lbs.	8	8	0	1,119	1,114	0
Used for Milk, Cream and Butter	Million Lbs.	3	3	0	160	151	-6
Fed to Calves 2/	Million Lbs.	5	5	0	959	963	0
Milk Marketed by Producers	Million Lbs.	385	344	-11	168,944	169,198	0
INCOME AND VALUE OF MILK:							
Average Returns per Cwt. of Milk	Dollars	13.20	13.30	+ 1	12.18	12.55	+ 3
Cash Receipts from Marketings	1,000 Dol.	50,820	45,752	-10	20,582,238	21,227,695	+ 3
Value of Home Consumption	1,000 Dol.	396	399	+ 1	19,816	19,257	-3
Gross Producer Income 3/	1,000 Dol.	51,216	46,151	-10	20,602,054	21,246,952	+ 3
Value of Milk Produced 4/	1,000 Dol.	51,876	46,816	-10	20,720,482	21,369,706	+ 3

1/ Average number during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh.2/ Excludes milk nursed by calves.3/ Cash receipts from marketings of milk and cream plus value of milk used for home consumption.4/ Includes value of milk fed to calves.